18275 applications are pending. Over three years and less than four years, 10 applications are pending.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as per the reply of the Minister, still the applications are pending. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is what he said. He said, 10 applications are pending which are over three years and less than four years. The others have been disposed of.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Sir, in order to meet the situation, he has taken some of the measures. I would like to know by what time, this back-log will be cleared?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, recently we issued instructions that all these pending applications would be finalised within 11 months. We have issued instructions that for receipts of applications and for numbering of indices, they must take only one month's time. Calling for files from branches, one month's time is allowed, to comply with the requirements, three months time is given, for general publication, two months time is allowed, for filing of applications under the relevant section, four months time is allowed and for final hearing, one months's time is allowed. The total time is 11 months. Within 11 months, they must dispose of these applications. These are the guidelines issued to the departments.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, one of the way in which the workload in the Trade Mark Wing can be reduced is by removing foreign trade marks altogether. Sir, you are aware that many companies are coming in to make blades like Seven O'Clock, Maggie Noodles etc. and competing with firms which are already manufacturing the same products in India and thereby having an advantage of a brand name. Will the Ministry consider banning of foreign brand names altogether. This would lighten the work in the particular department and lessen your load and you would be able to give trade mark to everybody within six months.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, there is no proposal of prohibiting the brand names of the foreign firms. There is a lot of backlog. Now, as answered by me in the previous question, we are taking steps to clear all these backlogs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question No. 67.

Investment in Central Sector Projects in Punjab

*67. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investment by Central Government in the Central Sector Projects in the State of Punjab is declining day by day;

(b) whether Central Government are aware that in the absence of large scale projects in Punjab, the employment opportunities for the youth have become inadequate; and

(c) what steps the Central Government propose to take in order to set up new large scale industries in the State of Punjab during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) The investment in Central Public Enterprises in Punjab has been increasing year after year.

(b) and (c) Investment decisions of Central Government are mainly based on techno-economic considerations. Under the 7th Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 177.41 crores has been provided for the Central industrial and mineral sector and Rs. 109.88 crores in the power sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.